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NSC 10, NSA 02, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 35, RSR 01,
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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC POLAD
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Izenberg DATE 10/5/81
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TS AUTH. REASON (S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☑
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SUBJ: OBSERVERS FOR VIETNAMESE ELECTIONS

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED JULY 27 FROM GVN FONMIN DO TO AMBASSADOR. BEGIN TEXT.

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WILL HOLD ON SEPTEMBER 3, 1967 GENERAL ELECTIONS WITH THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, AS WELL AS A SIXTY-MEMBER SENATE.

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THESE ELECTIONS REPRESENT THE DECISIVE PHASE OF OUR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE OUR COUNTRY WITH DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, THE FIRST STEPS ON THESE EFFORTS BEING THE ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1966, THE DRAFTING THEN FOLLOWED BY THE ELECTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND BY THE INSTALLATION OF A GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE TO BOTH HOUSES BEFORE THE END

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OF THIS YEAR, THUS COMPLETING THE BUILDING OF THE ESSENTIAL ORGANS OF THE STATE.
ON THE OCCASION OF THE SEPTEMBER 3, 1967 ELECTIONS, I WISH TO INFORM YOU ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT OF OUR SINCERE DESIRE TO WELCOME A CERTAIN NUMBER OF OBSERVERS FROM YOUR COUNTRY IN VIETNAM. THE PRESENCE OF THESE OBSERVERS WILL CLEARLY TESTIFY TO OUR FIRM DETERMINATION TO HOLD FREE AND HONEST ELECTIONS, AND WILL AT THE SAME TIME ALLOW THEM TO ASCERTAIN ON THE SPOT THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS, AS WELL AS IN THE FIELDS OF PACIFICATION AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION.
ALL FACILITIES WOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE ABOVE OBSERVERS, SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO SEND THEM TO VIETNAM.

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PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.
END TEXT.

BUNKER

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